

## Message Text

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41

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SY-04

IO-10 SAM-01 SAB-01 AF-04 SCCT-01 /071 W

----- 045188

R 201615Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1455

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHAD

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 13962

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS MO JO PLO XF

SUBJECT: ABU IYAD SURFACES IN BEIRUT

REFS: A. BEIRUT 13562 (NOTAL); B. BEIRUT 13802 (NOTAL)

1. CONFIRMING PRIOR PRESS REPORTS (REFTEL B), SALAH KHALAF  
(ABU IYAD), FATAH'S MISSING NO. 2, ADDRESSED RALLY AT ARAB  
UNIVERSITY HERE EVENING NOV 20. AGAINST BACKDROP BANNER  
READING "RABAT OPERATION IS NEITHER FIRST NOR LAST ATTEMPT TO  
ASSASSINATE HUSSEIN," UNREPENTANT ABU IYAD CROWED THAT THOSE  
WHO PARTICIPATED IN RABAT PLOT ARE "SONS OF FATAH AND BLACK  
SEPTEMBER " AND STATED HIS GROUP WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS TO  
ASSASSINATE JORDANIAN KING "BECAUSE WE ARE CARRYING OUT  
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DECISION OF FATAH REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL WHICH CALLS FOR  
TOPPLING OF JORDANIAN REGIME."

2. ALTHOUGH FULLER DETAILS OF ABU IYAD'S SPEEACH CAN BE FOUND IN FBIS BE200908, WE FOUND MOST INTERESTING HIGHLIGHTS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) HIS CLAIM THAT RABAT PLOW WAS AIMED SOLELY AGAINST HUSSEIN, CONTRARY TO "INSIDIOUS" CLAIMS OF MOROCCAN AUTHORITIES THAT FIVE ARAB KINGS AND PRESIDENTS WERE TARGETS;

(B) HIS CHARGE THAT PALESTINIANS ARRESTED IN RABAT WERE SUBJECTED TO "SAVAGE" TORTURE THERE (BUT ARE NOW BEING WELL TREATED IN CAIRO);

(C) HIS CLAIM THAT NUMBER OF PLOTTERS EXCEEDED THE FOURTEEN WHO WERE ARRESTED AND THAT OTHERS, INCLUDING FEMALE COMMANDOS, CONTINUE SEEK OPPORTUNITY TO KILL HUSSEIN;

(D) HIS DENIAL OF LIBYAN INVOLVEMENT IN PLOT;

(E) FACT THAT HE WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO DENY REPORTS THAT "PLAY-ACTING" CONCOCTED BY 'ARAFAT AND ABU IYAD TO ENHANCE 'ARAFAT'S POSITION AT RABAT SUMMIT.

(F) HIS BELIEF THAT JORDAN, ISRAEL AND US ARE CONNIVING TO DEMONSTRATE THAT PLO IS INCAPABLE OF REGAINING OCCUPIED TERRITORY OF NEGOTIATING WITH ISRAEL, THUS EVENTUALLY FORCING OTHER ARAB GOVTs TO ASK HUSSEIN ONCE AGAIN ASSUME STEWARDSHIP OVER WEST BANK.

4. COMMENT: OTHER THAN CLAIMING HE HAD NOT BEEN DETAINED IN MOROCCO BECAUSE HE HAD NOT VISITED RABAT, KHALAF DID LITTLE TO DISPEL MYSTERY WHICH HAS SURROUNDED HIS WHEREABOUTS OVER PAST SEVERAL WEEKS. DESPITE WHAT ABU HASSAN TOLD US LAST WEEK (REFTEL A), ABU IYAD EXPLICITLY LABELLED PARTICIPANTS IN PLOT AS "HEROES" AND ATTEMPTED CLAIM SOME REFLECTED "GLORY" FOR HIMSELF. WE WILL BE WATCHING CLOSELY IN COMING DAYS FOR INDICATIONS OF HOW 'ARAFAT & CO. ARE REACTING TO KHALAF'S PUBLIC AND PRIVATE "EXPLANATION".

GODLEY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CollinP0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ABU IYAD SURFACES IN BEIRUT  
**TAGS:** PINS, MO, JO, XF, PLO, (HUSSEIN I)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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